

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE MICHIGAN SENATE
NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND GREAT LAKES COMMITTEE

April 26, 2012

Presented by:

Ernie Krygier, President
Save Our Shoreline

Testimony of Ernie Krygier

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Ernie Krygier. I am:

- 1) Owner of an appliance repair service in Saginaw;
A Bay County Commissioner in my second term;
I Live on Aplin Beach on Saginaw Bay; and
I am President of Save Our Shoreline, which we formed
in 2001 with 3,000 member families from along the
Great Lakes shore.
- 2) As you know, my organization has worked with you in
drafting SB 1052, and we support the bill.
- 3) As most people here know, we've been working on this
issue since 2001.
- 4) In the process, I've worked with three administrations
from both parties, including meeting personally with
three MDEQ directors.
- 5) Our goal has been to groom our beaches without filing
a lawsuit against the state.
- 6) Up to this point, the only solutions we've been able
to get have been temporary solutions.
- 7) When you contacted us to help with this bill, we
thought it was a good opportunity to finally get a
long-term solution.
- 8) I think we've settled the fact that shoreline owners
should be allowed to groom their beaches. We did it
long before the 2003 legislation, and we've been doing
it since.
- 9) The goal of this bill is to allow us to do it without
making us get permits.
- 10) People should not have to get permits just to groom
the beach in front of their house or cottage.
- 11) What we've learned over the last nine years is that
most people don't get the permit-but they still want
to groom their beach-and do.

- 12) So if we don't fix this law, it is just a matter of time until the Department will start another war on beach owners who just want to maintain their beach like they always have.

On behalf of shoreline owners, I'd like to personally thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the rest of your staff, for taking on this important issue, and for your support of thousands of families who just want to clean their beach.

Thank you.